I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EL 982 741 108 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: November 26, 2003 Signature:

Docket No.: SIW-075 (PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kenichiro Ueda, et al.

Application No.: NEW APPLICATION

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: A FUNCTION MAINTAINING METHOD FOR

A FUEL CELL SYSTEM

## FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.